

# BPER Banca Gallery: still life genres and Alessandro Sambini feature in Modena and Milan

by Elsa Barbieri

**I**n Modena, the pinacoteca hosts *L'incanto del vero. Frammenti di quotidiano nella natura morta tra Sei e Settecento* until 30 June 2024; while in Milan the new BPER Banca Private Cesare Ponti, hosts *Human Image Recognition*, a solo exhibition by multimedia artist **Alessandro Sambini** until 27 June 2024.

*L'incanto del vero. Frammenti di quotidiano nella natura morta tra Sei e Settecento*, curated by **Lucia Peruzzi**, reveals to the public for the first time fifteen of the most significant still life paintings in the BPER Banca collection, accompanied by a selection of eleven masterpieces from private collections and public institutions creating an exquisite exhibition of the main Emilia-Romagna masters in the 1600s and 1700s. "Colourful flowers, just blooming or on the verge of decay, refined pottery and precious majolica, pantries full of delicacies, aristocratic tables of elaborate food, alternate with frugal household and weekday meals, often evidence of hardship and sacrifice. These themes in the artworks by the Emilian masters, are relocated here in a framework in which the objects come out of their merely aesthetic and decorative dimension and are strongly linked with the flow of daily life," explains the curator.

Together with the paintings, the curator of the Historical Archives of BPER Banca, **Chiara Pulini**, presents a selection of documents from the **State Archives of Modena** and the **Rangoni Machiavelli Private Archive** that explain the strong link between the image in the works of art and daily life. Recipes, menus and handout books are intertwined between the colours, flavours and smells in the paintings. The texts support the images with historical truth, and bring alive the lifestyles in Po Valley homes in the 1600s and 1700s: "With *L'incanto del Vero*, the BPER Banca Gallery wants to offer the public not only an exhibition, but also a concrete message of reflection on sustainable and conscious behaviours, in this case, through culture, which is always the privileged bearer of values and ideas in favour of social growth," says **Sabrina Bianchi**, Head of Cultural Heritage at BPER Banca. **Michele Desubleo**, **Giovanni Andrea Sirani**, **Monsù Aurora**, **Cristoforo Munari**, **Pier Francesco Cittadini**, **Johannes Hermans**, **Bartolomeo Passerotti**, **Rodolfo Lodi's Master**, **Adriaen Van Utrecht**, **Bartolomeo Arbotori**, **Giovan Battista Recco**, **Nicola Levoli**, **Giovanni Rivalta** dialogue in an innovative and original itinerary, where the studies of reality in the inanimate and domestic objects of the floral depictions, the interiors, the pantries and the laden tables, are placed in a context that gives them symbolic value.

The clear desire, characteristic of the BPER Gallery, to stimulate critical reflection, includes *Human Image Recognition*, by **Alessandro Sambini**, curated by **Andrea Tinterri** and **Luca Zuccala**, in collaboration with **Giorgia Ligasacchi** and **Studio Pavesio e Associati with Negri-Clementi**. The exhibition, which is in the Milan Art Week programme, is part of an investigation into the relationship between man, machine, new technologies and Artificial Intelligence and forms part of the digital evolution that the BPER Banca Group is planning, giving particular importance to human relationships and individual creativity.

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La Galleria BPER Banca presenta a Modena *L'incanto del vero. Frammenti di quotidiano nella natura morta tra Sei e Settecento*, un prezioso itinerario espositivo lungo le principali scuole artistiche del bacino emiliano-romagnolo tra Seicento e Settecento sul genere della natura morta e le sue trasformazioni nel corso del tempo. A Milano invece la nuova BPER Banca Private Cesare Ponti ospita *Human Image Recognition*, personale dell'artista multimediale **Alessandro Sambini** che indaga il rapporto tra l'uomo, la macchina, le nuove tecnologie e l'Intelligenza Artificiale

From the top:

**Alessandro Sambini**, *Human Image Recognition*. Galleria BPER Banca, Milano  
**Michele Desubleo**, *La Madonna della rosa*. La Galleria BPER Banca, Modena  
**Cristoforo Munari**, *Natura morta con spartito, violino, brocca e anguria*.  
La Galleria BPER Banca, Modena

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